(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the SDFC have allocated any funds for development of coastal shipping during the current year;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government have formulated any plan to ensure supply of salt through coastal shipping to every coastal district;

(h) whether Government of Maharashtra has shown any interest for starting coastal *shipping; and*

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The National Shipping Board (1983-85) had made recommendations to develop coastal shipping.

(b) The Government is taking all feasible measures to develop coastal shipping.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). No, Sir. The S.D.F.C. was wound up in 1987.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) and (i). Government of Maharashtra has shown interest in the resumption of Bombay-Goa Coastal Passenger Service. To this end, they have given a No Objection Certificate to a private party to operate such a service.

[*Translation*]

Ex-Servicemen in Hill Districts in Uttar Pradesh

2543. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise number of ex-servicemen in the eight hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of ex-servicemen getting pension and the number of ex-servicemen to whom pension is not being paid due to non-completion of 15 years of service;

(c) the number of cases pending for grant of pension;

(d) the time by which these pending cases are likely to be disposed of; and

(e) the scheme formulated by the Government for the livelihood of ex-servicemen not being paid any pension?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e). The District-wise-number of ex-Servicemen in the 8 hill districts for Uttar Pradesh, as furnished by the U.P. Rajya Sainik Board, is as follows:-

Sl. No.	*District*	*No. of ex-Servicemen Pensioners*	*No. of non-pensioner ex-Servicemen*
1.	Pauri including Landsowne	21,016	44,831
2.	Chamoli	23,735	17,990

Sl. No.	*District*	*No. of ex-Servicemen Pensioners*	*No. of non-pensioner ex-Servicemen*
3.	Dehradun	30,155	10,637
4.	Tahri Garhwal	3,838	18,294
5.	Uttarkashi	Break-up not available 4,800 (Total)	
6.	Almora	27,620	10,760
7.	Nainital	10,000	11,425
8.	Pithoragarh	33,538	2,178

2. Information regarding the number of cases pending grant of pension to ex-Servicemen in the 8 hill districts of Uttar Pradesh is not separately available. Eligible cases are sanctioned pension promptly and without any delay.

3. Various concessions/relaxations have been granted and schemes formulated by the Government for the resettlement of ex-Servicemen. However, only those of the ex-Servicemen who fulfil the eligibility conditions (as per the definition of ex-Serviceman in force at the time of retirement/release from service) are eligible to avail themselves of the benefit of these concessions/ relaxations and the schemes. Others can avail themselves of several other general schemes formulated by the Government, from time to time, for encouraging and giving financial support by way of loans/ subsidy to entrepreneurs intending to set up small and medium industries, if they have viable projects. They can also register themselves with the general Employment Exchanges for employment on the civil side if they fulfil the eligibility conditions of the jobs applied for.

[*English*]

Assistance to Carpet Weavers in Garhwal Region

2544. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
KUMARI DIPIKA CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have devided to introduce the group approach to assist the carpet weavers of the Garhwal region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to introduce this approach for carpet weavers in other regions also;

(d) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefore; and